Christian
VIEW-POINT

December 1960

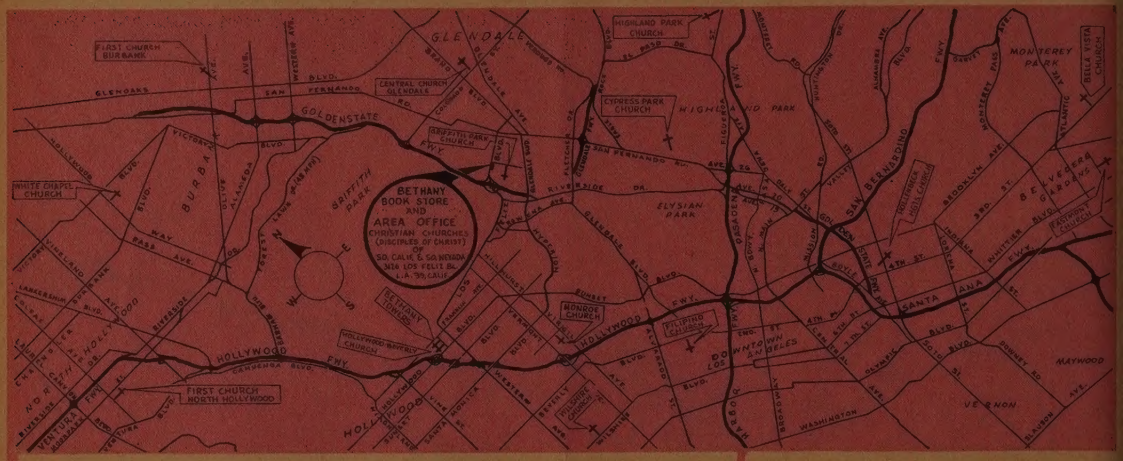
for the Southern California

CHRISTIAN CHURCH FAMILY

Christian
VIEW-POINT

Vol.1, No.6 CHRISTIAN CHURCHES (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) **December 1960**

NEW LOCATION -- NEW NAME



On November 1, the Christian Churches of Southern California moved to its new location at 3126 Los Feliz Boulevard, Los Angeles 39. For five years the offices have been at 4160 Monroe, and in the building formerly occupied by these offices, the Monroe Street Church will carry on an expanded program of service to the community.

What's In A Name?

Considerable attention was given to the choice of a name for the new setting. Earlier described as a "center", both the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee felt this was too general a name, not specific enough. Therefore 3126 Los Feliz will be known as the AREA OFFICE.

The word "area" is more accurate; Southern California is only a portion of the State. And while making both a mental and a penciled note of the change in name, jot down the new telephone number: NOrmandy 5-5126. The new number was inevitable after an unsuccessful attempt to keep the old one.

The above map indicates the most direct routes to the Christian Churches Area Office from the various freeways.

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VIEW POINTS

"What is the Church?"

ARE WE OBSCURING GOD THROUGH ACTIVITIES?

by MRS. H.G. WILKES
North Hollywood, California
Member of Commission on Brotherhood Finance in Unified Promotion

As we approach Christmas our me and strength become more nd more dear until we need to top and test the value of what e are doing in our homes and in ur churches.

May I suggest that we ask ourelves, "Are we *revealing* God rough activities? If God is being evealed then He is not obscured.

Activities which demonstrate ve are revealing God. Activities r self-gratification obscure Him.

Customs and trimmings for hristmas have increased through he years like the relishes on the merican hamburger until the flaor for many is trimmings and relshes and the meat can be left out ithout our even knowing it!

Let us examine our activities nd be sure the main ingredient is here. Let us be busy only with ctivities that show forth love. he Christian has no time for ctivities which obscure God if e is active enough revealing Him.

ABOUT THE COVER

The cover was designed and drawn by Mr. Sam McKim, active member of the Hollywood-Beverly Christian Church. He is a staff artist for the Walt Disney Studios and also does free lance work. He lives in Van Nuys, California.

by
DENNIS SAVAGE
Minister
Temple City
Christian Church

"Is there any word from the Lord?" asked King Zedekiah. Jeremiah replied, "There is."

Today, throngs are making the same inquiry if not in such direct question. Too often, citizens of of the Kingdom (The Church) are too busy with bazaars, committees, and unnecessary activities. Our "latest word" is from the minutes of the meeting or the publicity article in the paper. The WORD from the Lord for today and tomorrow is blurred by our man-made busyness and concerns.

The WORD from God is: That he loves us so much he gave his only Son, and gives us rich gifts constantly (life, beauty, universe, love, family, etc.). He is always conscious of our every need, deed, and wrong and right doing, and still he loves. Such good news! We should rush to share it with others. This is the mission for individuals and The Church.

In this Season, the Word is blurred as this news clipping points up:

"Last night John Elzy, watchman at the Grand Eagle Department Store, while making his rounds of the bargain basement, found the body of a man lying under a counter. He was thin to the point of emaciation, apparently in his middle thirties, and was shabbily dressed. His pockets were empty and there were no marks of identification upon his person. Store officials believe that he was trampled in the Christmas rush and crawled under the counter for shelter. But they are unable to account for what appear to be nail wounds in his hands. The police are investigating."

—*The Saturday Review*

by DONALD J. BARRETT
Director of Christian Education
Wilshire Christian Church

If we keep busy enough we don't have to think; and if we don't think we frequently forget why we are busy. The very worship of God may be obscured by endless activities, countless details, exhaustive meetings and glittering programs.

The Christmas season is a prime example of obscuring God by activities. Instead of Christ's birth bringing peace on earth, to many it brings anxiety on earth. The question which should be asked is, "How am I going to observe the birth of Jesus this year in such a way to give more meaning to my life and to those dear to me?" Instead the question too often is, "How am I going to send cards, attend parties, wrap packages, finish shopping, and attend church meetings when there are only 31 days between Thanksgiving and Christmas?"

Every aspect of Church life must be a living out of the good news. If activities do not strengthen our witness to the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man I question their necessity.

This is the third in a series of VIEW-POINT articles to help answer the question, "What is the Church?"

THE ART OF RECEIVING

by Paul R. Kidd

Many people this Christmas will have a much harder time *receiving* gifts than *giving* them.

"This boy must have been nibbling on some overripe mistletoe!" you're probably saying to yourself, as you think of your Christmas list that gets longer and longer each year and your bank account that gets shorter and shorter.

But it's true. Many of us don't know how to receive gifts or favors graciously. In fact, sometimes we are very un-Christian about it. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." But take a closer look at that statement. What it really says is, "It is more blessed to give than (it is blessed) to receive." In other words, Jesus said *it is blessed to receive, too!*

Giving is a two-way process. It takes a giver *and* a receiver. Giving is only half of the act. If a gift is not graciously received, this limits the blessing that the giver can get from it.

It is not always easy to receive a gift or favor. I recall a time I had some church business to discuss with another church member and invited him to have lunch with me so that we could talk it over. A few weeks later, we needed to confer again and this time he invited *me* to be *his* guest at lunch. I knew he had recently had to meet some heavy medical and hospital expenses, and so I immediately said, "Oh, you don't have to do that. Come on by the office and we'll have lunch together, but we'll go 'Dutch' today." It wasn't until I had hung up the phone that I realized how disappointed he had sounded, and how the fun and enthusiasm had gone out of his voice. Suddenly it occurred to me how un-Christian I had been. He had wanted to give me something and I wouldn't let him. Through the offer of a gift, a favor, he was trying to say something that he wanted or needed to say. But I wouldn't let him. It was as if I were holding my hand over his mouth! I began to realize that receiving is an art, and that I had a lot to learn about it.

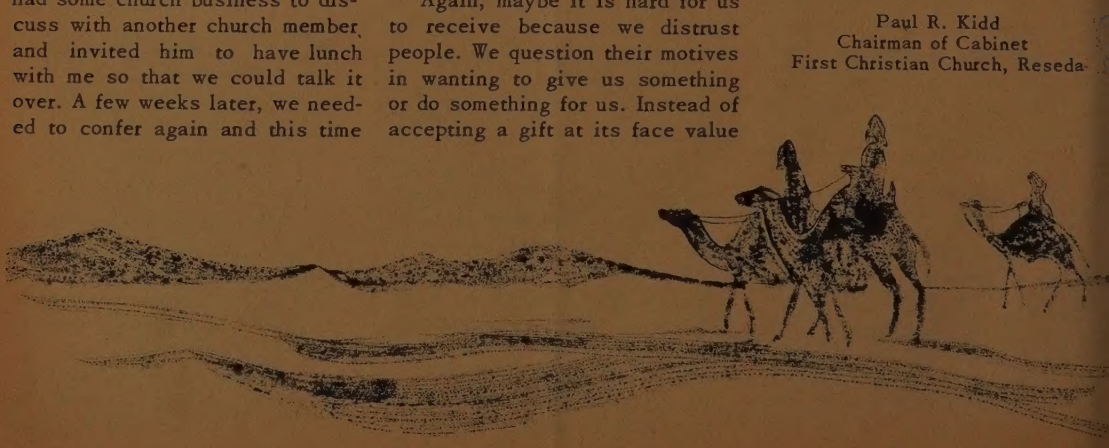
Why is it hard for us to receive? We like to maintain our independence. We don't want to feel obligated to anyone. Maybe giving makes us feel superior and we give because it bolsters our ego. But all of these reasons are selfish. If we admit that we have such needs (desire to be independent, feel superior, and have our ego bolstered), the least we could do is recognize that *others* have them, too!

Again, maybe it is hard for us to receive because we distrust people. We question their motives in wanting to give us something or do something for us. Instead of accepting a gift at its face value we try to psychoanalyze the ges ture, muttering to ourselves suc questions as, "Now, why is h *really* giving me this? What is h after? What does he want out o me?"

Obviously, such distrust an selfishness are not characteristi of Christian personality. *It i blessed to receive.* Jesus kne this, and knew how to receiv graciously. His friends tried t discourage him from accepting th gift offered by the woman wh came to bathe his feet with ex pensive ointment. "It's a waste o money!" they said. But Jesus sa beyond the gift to the woman' need for giving. By *receiving* wit love the gift she had *given* wit love, he was bestowing a bless ing on the giver as well as o himself.

If we would follow Jesus' ex ample, we too must learn the a of receiving. We must learn t receive—with love. ✱

Paul R. Kidd
Chairman of Cabinet
First Christian Church, Reseda



Editorial

UNTO YOU IS BORN A SAVIOR!

Each member of the church as well as the leaders in each congregation needs a further sense of the "family of the church".

Wherever any member of a person's immediate family may be, the concern of other members of that family follow him. Depending on the age of a child, his family's support and contribution follow him, even across the world. Whatever the family may give that member, is given through love extended, need sensed: Food, clothing, responsibility, education, discipline, travel, enrichment, opportunity to fulfill highest purposes.

We even heard of one mother who, during World War II, sent angel food cakes in metal tins to her son at several stations around the world. She knew what he did with them. He crushed the cake, made it into a firm ball and ate it. He didn't like the airiness, but he did like the cake! This was one way mother and son shared their sense of family.

Modest contribution or great, as long as a person lives, he deserves and receives the support of his family. This kind of belonging provides strength and conditions for growth.

Now see the picture of the tremendous Christian family, many congregations among many denominations across the world. As the birthday of Jesus is observed, each of us will do well to examine the degree of responsibility he carries for the "family of the church".

Some questions we should examine include:

Is my motivation for Christian service provincial or of global scope?

Is my congregation sensing limited achievement because we have not expressed our "sense of family" in transforming ways outside our immediate community?

Do the Christian churches really act as if they believe that Jesus came to seek and to save that which is lost?

Should not the congregations, one by one as well as together, expect to receive and be fashioned anew by a hitherto unaccepted Power so that in faith and love they may help redeem the times and the people?

Men and women, lay folk and ministers, youth and adults need pray this Christmastide that in each and all of us, new and more adequate values may emerge; that the quality of our witness may be valid for fellow beings around the world; that because of deepened commitment as disciples (learners, growers, wise and vigorous witnesses) we shall know the humble joy of a *Merry Christmas.* ✱

THROUGH EYES OF FAITH

MONROVIA, First—Christians are not exempt from the trials of life but any doctor will agree that they face them with more equanimity than non-Christians.

Eye surgery was scheduled for Adelia Percy, to remove cataracts which were robbing her of her sight. Facing the fact that there was very little chance of complete restoration of vision she wrote these words:

THROUGH EYES OF FAITH

Dear Lord, help me to see through
eyes of faith
To feel your blessed presence
ever near
Help me to listen to that still,
small voice
And hear you gently whisper
"Do not fear."

And as I look through eyes of faith
May I never fail to see
The beauty of your matchless grace
Your glorious majesty
If I should sometimes falter
And fail to understand
Forgive me for my weakness
And hold closely to my hand.

Help me walk forward unafraid
My heart with courage fill
With love and patience may I be
Content to do your will.
Since in the past you've always been
My counsellor and guide
I'll trust my future in your hands
And in your love abide.

To the astonishment of the doctors the expected complications did not arise. The operation was a surprising success and Mrs. Percy sees through eyes of faith, unimpaired.

Christmas Greetings from the Area Office Staff

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"DIG, MAN, DIG!"

A Current Appraisal of Christian Youth

by William R. Terbeek

"I dig that the most, man, I mean like wow, that really grabs me." Flip talk and other teen slanguage is always a masquerade. Adults cannot understand it because it is purposely created to give youth a private world, isolated from adults.

Conversely, our society has established a special and unique section of life known as the *Teen World*. Instead of helping youth to accent their responsible role in the social order, the mass media, economic market, social service groups, the church and the family have over-emphasized the uniqueness of the near human breed called youth. Every phase of American life has catered to the souped-up teenager until kids themselves say, "Why are we so different? Everybody treats us as though we had two heads."

Though many adolescents exploit this exalted position and keep the surrounding adults subjugated through fear, the no-nonsense youth are eager to get on with the real business of living. Sputnik I, the Rickover and Conant reports, and the awakened interest in knowledge and meaning has challenged the junior and senior high school to new intellectual dimensions, proving that youth are capable of learning more than had previously been expected of them.

In the light of the exaggerated teen world and the concern of serious youth to deal with great issues, the Church in its ministry to youth is called to change its image of youth work.

In the first place, ministers, education and youth committees, and adult leaders of youth can enrich the program of the church by helping youth to deal with the major concerns of the Christian faith. They can be challenged to move beyond "punch and cookie busyness" to a deeper searching of their Hebrew-Christian heritage and the call of God for their lives in this hour. Youth want to experience the *Good News* through sharing on social frontiers, by genuine encountering of prayer, and by discovering the hard core of meaning and existence that sustains other persons. They are capable of comparing the great ideas of our day with Christian principles and are willing to look for Christian answers to the questions of the solidarity of the human race, the effectiveness of democracy, and the permanent tensions of nuclear war. Youth are willing to give themselves wholeheartedly to the Christian faith if they can be challenged with concepts of God and man that are adequate for living in an age of space, speed and splendor. The Church in its ministry to youth must equip itself to help young people find proper motivation in their search for answers to the big questions.

In the second place, youth want to be a part of a Church that thinks of itself as the Body of Christ that is changing the world and not just talking about it. Young people for the most part are not enthused by the vast machinery required for the Church to progress so short a distance. Because even the most committed young people are more the products of the culture than of the Church, they yearn to be a part of the Body of Christ that is making a difference in society. They are willing to live a faith that is dynamic, life changing, and enduring. For this reason, the C.Y.F.'ers of our churches are finding a firm commitment expressed in the current youth theme, "Christ or Chaos". They have the courage to be what God wants them to be, if they are supported by a vital and living Church. Youth are ready to "Dig, Man, Dig". ✱

INSPIRATION POINT

THE FAMILY THINKS ABOUT CHRISTMAS

by Mrs. Ada Harsin
Associate Secretary in Christian Education (Children).

What makes the greatest impression on us as children and adults? Many times the thing that means the most may be a moment of quiet, or the closeness to one another in the family group or seeing parents and members of one's family with heads bowed in sincerity and humility before God the Father of all.

Following a time of sharing of gifts and Christmas fun, this meditation will be a guide for you as you help your family to understand the real spirit of Christmas.

Scripture to be read by parent or older child:

Read Luke 2:8

There were some shepherds on a hillside in Palestine one night taking care of their sheep.

Read Luke 2:9-14

Suddenly the shepherds heard an angel say that a baby was born in Bethlehem and that this was a very special baby boy whom God had sent.

Read Luke 2:15

The shepherds walked down the road very fast, hurrying to see the baby. The stars were very bright, and this made it easier for the shepherds as they walked over the hills toward Bethlehem.

Read Luke 2:16

The shepherds found the stable in Bethlehem where Mary and Joseph and the baby were staying. They went to the door and pushed it open very, very slowly. There in the stable they saw Mary holding a tiny baby in her arms. The baby was wrapped in a long strip of cloth called swaddling clothes. Mary was singing. Joseph was standing near by. The stable was so quiet that with Mary's singing the baby soon fell asleep. The shepherds watched Joseph take the baby carefully from Mary's arms and lay him in a manger of clean hay which made a soft, warm bed for the baby.

The shepherds asked, "What is the name of the baby?" "His name is Jesus," Joseph said. (Matthew 1:24-25.)

Hymn: "Away in a Manger", v. 1

Jesus was a baby as tiny, as wonderful, and as lovable as (use the name of a baby known and loved by the family). He learned to walk and talk just as babies do today. If you had lived in Bethlehem you might have held Jesus' hand when he first tried to walk. Jesus grew taller and wiser as he grew older. He learned about God, he thought about God, and he talked about God as no one else had ever done. When he became a man he was a loving friend who helped others, and who taught others to know and to love God.

Jesus grew up to be a very special person because he helped people to do what they thought they could not do.

Jesus was friendly. His friendly words made people feel better when they were sick. His friendly words made them feel happy when they had been lonely.

Jesus was famous. Lots of people knew about Jesus because of the wonderful things he did.

Hymn: "Tell me the stories of Jesus", vs. 1, 2.

Prayer:

O God, we thank you for all the joy that came into the world when Jesus was born. As Jesus helped people to know the joy of being friendly, we are glad that He has helped each one of us to know the joy of sharing with others.

May we continue to show our love for Jesus by helping others cheerfully and wholeheartedly.

Amen.

Shall we think of ways in which we can share with others and make Christmas last longer than just Christmas Day?

The Christmas spirit of love for others can be shared with many—the young mother who doesn't see how she can buy food for her children, much less toys; the shut-in who would so much enjoy hearing children sing the Christmas carols; a lonely person having a part in a Christian celebration of Christmas in your home.

When we are friendly
When we help others
When we love each other,
When we are remembering
Jesus,
Then Christmas will last the
whole year through. ✱

WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT!

One of the great responsibilities of Southern California churches is to establish new congregations. This calls for an unfolding strategy that utilizes every resource to its greatest advantage for the Kingdom. For a number of years, churches have been putting this item into their outreach budget. Increasingly, however, churches are wanting to do "special projects" in relation to starting new congregations.

One of these is to purchase, or help purchase, the ground on which to erect a new church. This is dramatic and practical; it ties well into the philosophy of starting new congregations which says that the site is needed before a nucleus group is formed. For a church actually to purchase the ground and provide it for this purpose may carry several implications.

One congregation purchases a piece of ground, finances the payment of it, increases its current commitment to New Church Advance and its Unified Promotion giving. This means that the congregation has actually made an over and above gift for the site. It has not transferred funds from one of the other outreach causes.

By continuing to give to the New Church Advance, this church is contributing to the starting of new churches across the nation and around the world. For every dollar that comes in after July 1, 1960, for New Church Advance, thirty cents goes to starting new congregations elsewhere. This is part of the program of the 1960's approved at the 1960 Southern California Assembly.

Another portion of the New Church Advance money is used to provide guidance and supervision, research and study as well as program support in the beginning of the nucleus group. This is exceedingly essential, and without it, new congregations would find themselves in far more complicated and discouraging positions. Some of the money from the New Church Advance used in Southern California is used to make the studies that help find the best locations for new churches, to decide upon wise land use of the property after it is secured.

Since this church continues to increase its giving to Unified Promotion, it is increasing its support of general work in Southern California, of the National and World Mission enterprise, for Chapman College, and for the Disciple Seminary Foundation's operation.

This is an actual example of what one church has done in the securing of the site for a new congregation. The story is told because a number of churches are considering such expressions of their outreach. Unless all of the factors that are noted above are taken into consideration, the congregation may not be making any special gift but simply rechanneling funds from already established work into a local situation.

Another Illustration

With several churches considering securing new sites, what else can happen if the above pattern is not followed?

The congregation may vote to secure the site for a new church. While it thinks largely of getting ground, experience has taught that almost as much money for new churches is necessary to get the program started and to bring the church to where it can support itself as is necessarily invested by the Brotherhood in the ground purchase.

This church sees a real need for a new congregation and sets aside $20,000. For purposes of illustration, this $20,000 is not new money given by the congregation, however; it is money that is redirected from other purposes to which it has been given in the past. The church does not increase its giving to New Church Advance. Thus, the national and world expression for new churches is cut out of that picture entirely.

When the new congregation is started on this site, the Brotherhood naturally will be expected to carry the program support. And yet by not increasing the giving to New Church Advance, resources are reduced rather than increased which are necessary to carry this responsibility with a growing number of new churches year by year.

A portion of the $20,000 comes because Unified Promotion giving either is not increased or is reduced. Of each dollar that is redirected to a channel other than Unified Promotion, the National and World Mission enterprise loses 62½ cents. Chapman College loses 14 cents. The Disciples Seminary Foundation loses 3½ cents, and the Brotherhood work in Southern California loses 20 cents.

As this new congregation develops, the demand upon the Brotherhood in Southern California is as great for program support and ministerial leadership as it is upon any other church.

Only as these important facets of the picture are seen can ministers and lay leaders expect to do all they can and want to do to further all aspects of Christian work both in Southern California and around the world. ✱

Guide Your Teen-ager

To Pick The Right Friends

The fifth of a series of articles in the interest of family relations.

by Lewis R. Eloe, Minister
Director, Northridge Family Counseling Center

Often during the week a distraught parent calls and asks what they can do about their teen-ager's friends. The questions cover the full gamut of aggravating activity from playing "chicken" on the railroad tracks as a train comes by—to daughter going with a motorcycle crowd.

The teen-age period is not only a difficult time for parents, it is also most difficult for the young person. For at this time, there is a shift of interests away from the family to friends outside of the home. Since this is a very influential period in the life of a young person, it is most important that we pick the right friends.

You may be tempted to judge his friends on the basis of "What does his father do?" or "Where did the family come from?" Even though such questions may seem important to you, they are not a satisfactory basis upon which to judge your son or daughter's friends. Valuable and worthwhile friendships can be made with people who have different social and economic backgrounds than our own.

You might better judge his friends on the basis of their character, aims, moral integrity and family life.

Even though a parent can't pick his teen-ager's friends, his influence can guide them in their choice. If your son or daughter has picked the wrong friends perhaps you need to re-examine the situation.

Here are a few suggestions to check that will help influence him in the right direction.

1. Closely examine your family relationships. Does he or she have to look for attention and recognition outside the home? Or are you spending time with them—especially the father? Are fair limits set up and held to? Does the teen-ager have a voice in affairs that effect himself and the family? Is he or she given freedom and trust? Do you try to understand and not pry?

2. Develop sound family activities. Camping is especially fine. Trips together, family work days around the home, joint projects and family nights are essential. Many a boy has been weaned away from bad company after their father took an interest in them.

3. Consider a part-time job. Often there may be too much leisure. A job helps to develop self-confidence and helps teach the value of time and money.

4. Develop hobby interests. New friends with similar interests are usually found when a new hobby is begun. Junior High shop may open up hobby interests. Shop teachers are usually willing to help interested boys.

5. Help them take advantage of the many fine community resources. Y.M.C.A. and Boy Scouts are designed to introduce boys to the "right kind" and give opportunities beyond the home. And, of course, church friends will have valuable influence on him.

6. Re-evaluate your entertaining habits. Do you have young people over for dinner or only adults for bridge? It is as important to entertain your children's friends as your own. Why not extend dinner invitations to couples with children their age?

Of course, these suggestions do not solve the serious problems of parents who have a great deal of trouble with the wrong gang influence. They need the help of a child-guidance clinic or family service. But these suggestions are to the larger numbers of parents who do not have a serious problem but want to be the best influence possible. They realize that the friends their child chooses now will have a lasting influence on his life.*

PROGRESS

SOCIAL ACTION WORKSHOP HELD AT NORTH HOLLYWOOD

Dr. Barton Hunter, director of the Department of Social Welfare, UCMS, led in a one-day workshop on Social Action and Community Service at the North Hollywood First Christian Church, November 4th. All chairmen of local church Social Action committees were invited, along with members of their committees and other interested individuals. At a dinner meeting in the evening, Dr. Hunter again spoke to the same group.

Dr. Hunter stressed the need for special ministries to people in need which the church could offer by enlisting members who would give special attention to these needs. Each person would "major" in one of these needs and would extend a greater degree of service because of his background and familiarity with resources. He stressed the need for more church conferences on the problem of the aging, health needs, housing needs, and particularly, mental health.

Nationally, the Department of Social Welfare is working presently in the following three areas of legislation: disarmament, migrants, and alcohol problems. He outlined some new proposals whereby the Department will bring to the attention of congressmen in Washington, D. C., the proposals and resolutions that come from Christian Church state and national conventions.

* * * * *

HELP KEEP THE RECORDS STRAIGHT

The treasurer of any organization sending an offering for Brotherhood service well can remember that currently both Chapman College and the Disciples Seminary Foundation are members of Unified Promotion. This means that monies intended for the current operation of these two institutions of higher learning are to be included in remittances to Unified Promotion. The amount does not need to be designated for Chapman or for the Seminary Foundation. This is for the operating funds.

BUT if a remittance is made for the capital funds, these should be directed to the Southern California mailing address of either of these institutions.

CHAPMAN PROFESSOR WRITES FOR INDIA PUBLICATION

ORANGE—The current issue of one of India's leading religious publications includes an article by Dr. Ronald M. Huntington, assistant professor of philosophy and religion at Chapman College.

When Dr. Huntington was in India last year doing research for his doctoral dissertation, he met the editor of Purana, a semi-annual scholarly religious journal published in Benares, and had a series of conferences with him.

This summer the editor invited Dr. Huntington to submit work for publication.

Dr. Huntington's article, "The Legend of Prithu: A Study in the Process of Individuation," is a psychological study of a legendary Hindu king.

* * * * *

HELPING NEEDY PEOPLE

"The Disciples have certainly made progress in recent months so far as the United Clothing Drive of the churches is concerned!" writes Ella L. Williams, coordinator for relief and rehabilitation services.

"We're now in third place, having contributed 263,048 pounds of used clothing to Church World Service in the first eight months of 1960 and paid 99.1% of the eight cents a pound requested."

In refugee resettlement, more than 60 persons have found new homes and opportunities in the United States since January in 1960, with the help of Disciple churches.

* * * * *

THANK YOU, MINISTERS

Ministers of Southern California churches responded splendidly when President C. P. Von Herzen asked them to publicize the open house at Bethany Towers in mid-October. As a result, 511 visitors came to 1745 North Gramercy Place over Saturday and Sunday, saw the four model apartments that were completed and enjoyed the lovely decor of the completed lounge area on the first floor.

As rapidly as the apartments can be renovated, they are being taken. Older persons who plan to become members should be in touch either with William Walters, Jr., the executive director, or Mrs. Betty Montgomery, the associate director.

STATE SKATE TO BE HELD

The annual C.Y.F. State Skate will be held Monday, December 26, at the Santa Ana Skate Ranch, 2526 North Main Street. Cost is $1.00, and youth are urged to bring $1.00 for CWFF. Responsibility has been assigned to the following Districts: publicity, San Gabriel; worship, San Fernando-Kern; arrangements, Orange; registration, San Diego; entertainment, Metropolitan.

* * * * *

BPW RETREAT AT LOCH LEVEN

"Missions News Broadcast" participants from left to right: Florence Jones, Elsie Webster, Merle Rice, Mrs. Loran Spencer.

One hundred Business and Professional Women of the Southern California Christian Women's Fellowship met for their annual Fall Retreat at Loch Leven on October 15 and 16. The program was a "Missions News Broadcast", reporting for three areas. Featured on the program were Mrs. Merle Rice, East Asia; Mrs. Loran Spencer, Africa; and Mrs. Florence Jones, Latin America.

Mrs. Lucile Shaffer, Secretary of the Southern California CWF conducted the communion service and was the Sunday worship hour speaker. An offering taken for the Africa Emergency Fund was $176.50.

Mrs. Irma Newman, past chairman of BPW, gave highlights of the world trip conducted by Katherine Schutze, National Chairman for BPW, and also of the World Convention in Edinburgh.

The BPW service project for the year is to provide carpeting for Campbell Lodge at Loch Leven.

The following persons were elected as the new officers for the coming year: Elisabeth Utter, chairman; Velma Chapin, 1st vice-chairman; Consuelo Parker, 2nd vice-chairman; and Jacqueline Williams, 3rd vice-chairman.

INISTERS' REFRESHER COURSES

"No man is well enough equipped serve God in today's complex orld without both a strong basic lucation and periodic refresher urses."

Because of this need many of our eminaries are offering advanced inisterial education.

ale Divinity School

On January 15 to 28, 1961, at the ew Haven Disciples' House, a limed number of Disciple ministers 2) are invited to take part in a reesher course with such distinguishd faculty as Richard Neibur, Bainton, eigle, Latourette and others.

o. Cal. School of Theology

Each semester the School of Thelogy presents an Advanced Profesional Study Program in the Los ngeles area and invites Disciple inisters to participate. Regular cademic standards are maintained these courses.

The Department of the Ministry ncourages all ministers to take adantage of these opportunities and sks the churches to encourage their espective ministers to participate. nyone desiring more information lease contact Don Barrett, Wilshire hristian Church, DUnkirk 2-6337.

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EMPLE CITY HOSTS MINISTERS

The Southern California Ministerial ssociation for ministers and their vives will be at Temple City Chrisian Church, 9723 East Garibaldi venue, on Tuesday, December 6. uncheon reservations by postcard ust be made in advance.

140 ministers and ministers' wives hared in the October 11 meeting at edondo Beach. In the business sesion the ministers voted to engage in pulpit exchange within the districts n Sunday, April 23, an integral part f the 1961 district assemblies.

The Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.
—I JOHN 4:14

CMF MID-WINTER RETREAT

The CMF Retreat is limited to one week end, February 24, 25 and 26, 1961, instead of the usual two separate retreats. Registrations will begin this month. Since space is limited, those who register early are assured of accommodation. The theme is AN ADVENTURE IN LEADERSHIP. The leaders are Dr. James Parrott, James Warren, Dean Canady, Russell Hensley and John Hedwall, assisted by laymen Chet Marsh, Darrel McGavran, Newell Green and Loren Willey.

COMING EVENTS

Dec. 2	CMF Dinner Meeting (No. & So. Calif.), Oakland
Dec. 3, 4	Christian Men's Assembly, San Francisco
Dec. 4	Women's Day
Dec. 6	Ministerial Association, Temple City
Dec. 7	Urban Church Committee
Dec. 8	VIEW-POINT Comm.
Dec. 8	Decade of Decision
Dec. 9, 10 and 11	VCYM Sharing Conference, Pilgrim Pines
Dec. 10	CMF Executive Com.
Dec. 12	Luncheon for Mrs. J. D. Wyker
Dec. 12	New Church Advance
Dec. 14	Ecumenical Rel. Com.
Dec. 14	Evangelism Meeting for Min., Hollywood-Beverly
Dec. 14	Evangelism Rally, Hollywood-Beverly
Dec. 15	Budget and Promotion
Dec. 15	Public Relations
Dec. 16	Camp and Conf. Dir. Tr., White Sulphur Springs
Dec. 18	Christmas Sunday
Dec. 20	Bd. of Dir. Exec. Com.
Dec. 22	Seminary Foundation
Dec. 22	State Assem. Exec. Com.
Dec. 22	State Assem. Prog. Com.
Dec. 26	SOY State Skate
Dec. 26	CYF State Skate
Dec. 26	Area Office Closed

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GOOD CENTS

LOS ANGELES, West Adams—Some people think the penny doesn't even pull its own weight anymore, but this congregation is making it count. Over and above their regular giving, the members are saving a penny-a-day and bringing the entire offering to church on a special day each month. It is surprising how those pennies add up to additional revenue for the church.

* * * * *

CHURCH-IN-TRANSITION

LOS ANGELES—The Monroe Street Christian Church has been designated as a church-in-transition and recognized as such by our Brotherhood at the International Convention in Louisville this year. Full-time leadership will be forthcoming soon and a significant work among students is to be anticipated. The churches of the Metropolitan District will assist in a sociological survey which will assist in determining future decisions.

"CREATED TO SERVE"

A twenty-two minute sound, color film now is available telling the story of the Christian Board of Publication. Included also is an epilogue which tells of the plans for future development of the Board.

Because the Christian Board serves in a multitude of ways among the Christian Churches across the nation and the world, congregations or groups within a church would probably like to see this picture.

Copies of the film will be available through the office of Christian Education after December 1 and perhaps as late as June 30, 1961.

* * * * *

OUR WORLD IN CAPSULE

What kind of world we really live in can be vividly grasped if we imagine for the moment that it is suddenly shrunk to a city of 1,000 people. Dr. Henry S. Lieper of the World Council of Churches has described such a community.

In this town there would be 60 Americans; the remainder of the world would include 940 persons. The 60 Americans would receive half the income of the remaining town of 940. About 330 would be classified as Christians and 670 would be non-Christian; 100 would be Protestants and 230 would be Roman Catholics. At least 80 townspeople would be practicing Communists, 370 others would be under Communist domination. White people would total about 300, with 700 non-whites. The 60 Americans would have an average life expectancy of 70 years, the other 940 less than 40 years.

If you lived in a community like this, could you "love your neighbor as yourself" and sing "peace on earth, good will to men"? Considering the world our community, you do live in such a place!

* * * * *

MRS. JAMES D. WYKER IN LOS ANGELES

Mrs. James D. Wyker, past national president of United Church Women, will be in Los Angeles following the meeting of the National Council of Churches in early December. A luncheon has been planned honoring Mrs. Wyker. It will be held on Monday, December 12, at 1:00 p.m. at the Church Federation Building, 3330 West Adams, Los Angeles. Since the space is limited, only 125 persons can be accommodated, so the first 125 to make reservations will be the fortunate ones. Luncheon will be $1.25. Reservations and money, must be turned in to Mrs. Walter Fellers, 6335 Riggs Place, Los Angeles 24, California.

PROGRESS

FRIENDSHIP LETTER CAMPAIGN

The Social Action Department of the Temple City Christian Church is promoting as a unit the "Friendship Letter Campaign to Cuba" under the supervision of the editors of the Post Advocate of Alhambra and the Miami Herald of Florida.

Approximately thirty letters have been sent from the church, nearly two hundred from the San Gabriel area, and several thousand from the U. S. A. since the birth of the crusade last July. The letters are already getting favorable and encouraging reactions from our Cuban friends. Many answers have been received by the editors and the letter writers, expressing delight and appreciation. A Cuban clerk wrote, "Now I realize that Americans are our friends. For a moment, I forgot."

The plan is for each citizen to write a warm, friendly, personal letter to an unknown friend in Cuba, place it in an unaddressed, unsealed envelope with a ten cent postage stamp and send it to the Post Advocate, 11 South Stoneman, Alhambra, enclosed in a larger envelope; or send direct to "Friendship Letters", Miami Herald, Miami, Florida.

The Herald receives all letters, opens and inspects them to see that there are no damaging statements, inserts a Spanish explanation, addresses them with names picked from telephone books and other Cuban sources, and mails them. Cuban friends cooperate and an effort is made to prevent Castro and his leaders from receiving them.

What shall we write? This is the question many people are asking. Just a warm sympathetic friendly letter as you would write to a friend of long standing is what is needed. Write chit-chat about home, family, job, and friends. History is encouraged, but avoid arguments about the present U.S.-Cuban diplomatic problems. Comments of a damaging nature are forbidden.

Further information may be secured from Mrs. C. W. Cooper, 501 West Palm Drive, Arcadia.

CAMP DIRECTORS TRAINED

Camp and Conference Directors for the summer of 1961 have been appointed by the Camp Commission. They will attend a regional training session from December 12–16, 1960, at White Sulphur Springs, near Napa, California, under the leadership of Mr. James Ballinger, National Director of Camps and Conference.

LEADERS MAP '61 ASSEMBLY PLANS

A long-established phase of the annual Assembly work in Southern California is that of the committee on Recommendations. Melvin Laven, the pastor of the Foothill Boulevard Christian Church in La Crescenta, and Phil Gerrard, layman from the Camile Christian Church in Santa Ana, lead this work for the June 21–25 Assembly in 1961. The committee on Recommendations is composed of a principal from each church, and an alternate also is designated. Well in advance of the Assembly, these men and women study the issues coming to the attention of the Assembly, offering their recommendations for the consideration of the annual meeting.

New in 1961 is the privilege, and the responsibility, of each congregation to have its delegates working throughout the entire Assembly. Guidance for the choice of delegates and alternates from each congregation will be developed by the committee on Delegates under Mr. Cron, pastor of the Glendale Central Christian Church. Already the minister and a lay leader in each congregation have been advised that the delegates and alternates need to be chosen prior to February 1, 1961.

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CHAPMAN STAGE REVAMPED

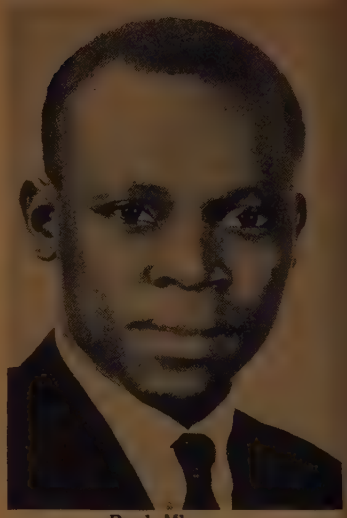
A gift from the Chapman Building Company of Fullerton, California, has made possible the recently completed major revamping of stage facilities in the Chapman College Auditorium. The gift was presented by the firm's president, C. Stanley Chapman. Mrs. C. C. Chapman, Irvin C. Chapman and Mrs. Ethel Chapman Wickett are also directors of the company.

Included in the project are new overhead lighting and footlights on the stage, a new catwalk and lighting in the front of the auditorium, a new control switchboard, and a complete new set of stage curtains.

New draperies for all the windows in the auditorium have been provided by the Woman's Campus Club and E. T. Schenck of Los Angeles, an alumnus of Chapman College. A portable sound amplification system is a recent gift of Mr. & Mrs. W. L. Scott of El Centro, California.

"These generous gifts make a real contribution to the College's total program," said president John L. Davis. They will be especially enjoyed by the Christian Church members of Southern California when they hold their State Assembly on the Chapman College campus June 21–24, 1960.

CONGO CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR TOURS U. S. CHURCHES



Paul Mbenga,
Member of the Christian Churches and citizen of the Republic of the Congo.

A Congolese Christian leader from Bolenge is touring Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) in the United States.

He is Paul Mbenga, the director-elect of the Congo Christian Institute. Mr. Mbenga is the first Congolese chosen for this position. He also is the legal representative of the Christian Churches in Congo.

For six years Mr. Mbenga has been a teacher in the normal school at Congo Christian Institute. He is a graduate of the advanced, interdenominational Normal School at Kimpese in the lower Congo.

Mr. Mbenga is the first Congolese Christian Church member to visit America since 1909. He sees an urgent need for educational facilities to provide fully-trained Congolese church and school leadership.

* * * * *

ANNUAL PLANNING CONFERENCE

The Annual Planning Conference for state leaders will be held January 8–10 at Pacific Palisades Conference Grounds. As the theme, "Design for Action", is focused upon the total witness for the years ahead, it is important that elected state and district leaders prepare to attend. There will be no cost to participants, in order that departments may be at full strength in charting the course of advance in 1962.

January 7 will again be known as Fellowship Day, when the state cabinets of the CWF, CMF, SOY and CYF will meet at the Hollywood-Beverly Christian Church from 9:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. to consider their program events in the light of the mission of the total Brotherhood.

FAMILY ALBUM

. E. WORTHY TO RETIRE

The First Christian Church of Bell nnounces the retirements of their inisters, Rev. and Mrs. A. E. Worthy om the local pastorate on October 0th. The rapid growth and expansion f the Church began with the coming f Minister Worthy on February 5, 938.

Rev. Worthy has served as a minster of the gospel for 44 years, and as the distinction of serving the Christian Churches of Southern Calfornia longer than any other minister ow active in the Brotherhood. He as served churches in El Centro, ong Beach and Van Nuys before oming to Bell. During his entire inistry he has received the Confesion of Faith and baptized 2,515 ersons and received 1,775 by transer of membership for a total of 4,290. Ie has officiated at 1,330 weddings nd 1,475 funerals.

The church held a reception for the Worthys on September 28, at which ime Dr. James Parrott, Executive Secretary of Christian Churches of Southern California brought the mesage. Organizations of the church resented gifts and the congregaion, represented by the Chairman of he Board, John Kinkade, presented monetary gift with the love and ppreciation of the church.

On his closing Sunday, Rev. Worhy chose as his sermon topic, "I Would Do It Again".

The congregation accepted with egret his retirement but feels certain hat through his past efforts they will ontinue to grow spiritually. He leaves the Church with a "Declaration of Faith" written in time for the 35th Anniversary of the Church that can be followed so the Church will grow in the years to come.

Rev. and Mrs. Worthy moved to heir new home at 2022 W. Washington, Santa Ana, where many of their friends will want to call.

* * * * *

ALABAMAN AT EL MONTE

Arthur F. Morrill is serving as the interim minister at El Monte. Closely identified with the work of the Brotherhood in the South, Mr. Morrill had been the leader of a new church in Mobile from whence he came to California at the time the Mobile church called its full-time, resident minister.

The Morrills also will be well remembered for their large gift to the College of the Bible at Lexington.

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY IN HOSPITAL

A. Ray Wellington, Administrative Secretary of the Christian Churches of Southern California entered the hospital on October 7 for major surgery. After a week in the hospital, he returned to his home to recuperate. On November 21, he resumed his full responsibilities at the Christian Churches Area Office. Mr. Wellington was greatly missed during his illness and a large gap was left in the work of the church. His recovery has brought rejoicing for his increased good health and his effective ministry to the churches.

* * * * *

"EMPTY, SWEPT AND READY"

Christmas is anticipated at California Christian Home by over one hundred guests. The picture accompanying this article shows Mr. N. F. Story, a resident of the Home, cleaning the large storeroom in preparation for the white gifts of food which will be arriving at Christmas time. Early this year there was a huge stock of canned juices at the place where he is sweeping. Now, all those cans have been emptied and our members are looking forward to the 1960 observance of Christmas by all our Southern California churches. The estimated value of last year's white gifts was $4,000.

FLU SHOTS AT CALIFORNIA CHRISTIAN HOME

Nobody likes a hypodermic needle! However, Mrs. Lois Wilson, shown receiving her flu inoculation, seems not to mind. Behind her in the line is Mrs. Charlotte Francis ready to take her turn. About one hundred shots were given in approximately an hour by Dr. Franco Vetri of Rosemead, and Mrs. Lillian Harrington, R.N., who together are in charge of the health program at California Christian Home. Members of the staff are being included in the flu prevention program and it is hoped we will have a "healthy" Home this winter.

* * * * *

As many as one hundred eleven persons have been living at California Christian Home this fall. Only by filling every available space in the building has this been possible. The proportion of men to women has been about the same as usual with twelve men and ninety-eight women on the day this was written.

FAMILY ALBUM

WHITELY SERVES BELL

At the time of the retirement on October 31 of A. E. (Bob) Worthy as the minister of First Christian Church in Bell, the officers had arranged for Barrett Whitely to become the interim minister. In the months ahead, while Bell seeks a new minister, Mr. Whitely will give full-time leadership to the congregation.

* * * * *

RIVERSIDE—The First Christian Church here is following the lead of other larger churches in Southern California and is purchasing four acres of property in West Riverside for a new congregation. Churchman's Foundation is assisting in this and much will be heard from this project in the next few months.

* * * * *

HI HO, A HAYRIDE!

On October 22, the Metropolitan District Chi Rho, under the leadership of Mrs. Barbara Songer, district chairman, held a hayride and weiner roast at Athens Park. One hundred and ninety people attended which may be a new Chi Rho record for any district. Mrs. Songer wishes to commend the youth on their excellent response and cooperation.

MORTGAGE BURNED AT LA MESA

On Tuesday, October 4, the Vista La Mesa Christian Church, La Mesa, California, burned the mortgage on their church. Burning the mortgage are the original trustees pictured above, left to right: E. F. Brady, Jim Conlee, and Harold Haskins. Jim Conlee, Chairman of the Board of Elders, presided at the service of note burning, which was the feature of an All-Church Potluck Dinner. The blessing was asked by Richard G. Davis, pastor, who came to Vista La Mesa Christian Church on September 1. More than 100 people attended, overflowing from Fellowship Hall into other rooms, pointing to the need for further expansion.

WHOM SHALL I SEND

SAN DIEGO, East—Another young man steps from this congregation to answer the call of God. Chris Margos entered Northwestern Christian College this fall to begin his training as a ministerial candidate.

Rev. Earl Christofferson of this church has watched with justifiable pride the growth of this young man. Chris' baptism was the first he performed at the beginning of his ministry here six years ago.

Chris, then a high school senior, began to think of a life in the ministry but two years of military service in Germany temporarily interrupted his plans. He was impressed by the beauty of the great cathedrals of Europe and his vision of a life of Christian service became brighter.

On his return to the States he again discussed his future with Rev. Christofferson. This time concrete plans were made and Chris along with his wife Sharon left for Northwestern Christian College this fall. Chris plans two years at N.C.C. then on to Yale or Union for graduate study. His ultimate goal is a professorship at a Christian college but feels he ought to train for the ministry and serve a successful pastorate first.

Rev. Christofferson regards Chris as a fine young man of stable personality who shows excellent promise. With a smile he adds, "Chris is of Greek ancestry and culture and he is the only ministerial candidate I know who won't have any trouble with the Greek language."

East San Diego Church has another ministerial student, John McAlester, who is in his second year at Phillips. VIEW-POINT joins with this church family in voicing their admiration for these two young men.

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- By investing it in the Churchman's Foundation, an auxilliary corporation of the Christian Churches of Southern California.
- Also, you will help your church to expand its program of service.
- For further information write or call:

THE CHURCHMAN'S FOUNDATION
3126 Los Feliz Boulevard
Los Angeles 39, California
Telephone: NOrmandy 4-7219

CHRISTIAN WILLS DINNER

A uniquely effective program for phasizing the Christian's responsity in making a will was presented he University Christian Church of Diego on October 5. Following a ner meeting to which all church ilies were invited, three profesnal people with special competence the business of wills and estates stituted a panel which discussed many facets of making a will. Af- a ten-minute presentation from h panelist, questions from the audce were answered. Harvey Ather-, prominent local attorney, spoke the importance of making a will discussed the legal consequences dying intestate. Charles Ray Conine, a certified public accountant, cussed the tax problem connected h making a will. LeRoy Knudson, sistant Trust Officer for the First tional Trust and Savings Bank of Diego, outlined the advantages of ng "trusts" in the implementation estates. James A. Warren, Secrey of Evangelism and Stewardship the Christian Churches of Southern lifornia, was invited to moderate discussion.

The evening proved a very profite one and was greatly appreciated the congregation. Perhaps other urches will wish to plan a similar ogram for their people.

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AY BALL!

LOS ANGELES, All Peoples—If u are a Dodger fan, you will know at two dozen baseballs are given ay each time a home run is hit ring a Dodger game. Recently, All oples came in for its share when a autiful circuit blow was struck.

The Union Oil Company, sponsors this idea, sent the balls along th a letter which said in part, "We pe these baseballs may be put to od use in your youth program."

THE LEAST OF THESE

SAN DIEGO, University—The best way to bring the millions of the world's hungry people into focus is to see that one of them is fed. The Progressive Class under the leadership of Roy Barnes works through the Christian Children's Fund, Inc. to care for a child in Korea.

This is not a new class project - for they have already seen their adopted "son" through to a self-supporting age. Now a new child, six-year old Lee Kyung OK, takes his place in the C.C.F. Children's Home. The class has now taken the responsibility of her care. They will send $10.00 a month plus birthday and Christmas checks.

Regular letters come to the class telling what the money is spent for and how the child is progressing. The last letter told them that their adopted daughter was a kind and gentle child whose name meant "pretty". It told them she loved learning to sing and count in Kindergarten and her chore in the home was putting away toys. The letter closed with, "We are sure you will enjoy as much helping the new little friend who needs you now."

VIEW-POINT wishes to commend this class for their Christian concern.

DR. RICHARD E. LENTZ TO HEAD LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Richard E. Lentz on September 15, 1960, became the first executive director of a new church-wide development program for the Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ).

The appointment of Dr. Lentz marked the launching of a program which had been frequently requested by the churches. He has the dual responsibility of working out a church-wide program of leadership development and providing a program of leadership education of the Christian education leaders of the churches. Supporting materials are to be made available.

At the same time, Dr. Lentz and others in this area of work will be seeking the broadest possible correlation and coordination of all efforts in leadership development. For this purpose, a Program and Policy Committee on Leadership Development has been set up.

Dr. Lentz previously has laid the foundations and provided materials for a comprehensive Family-Life Program for churches.

* * * * *

EXCHANGE STUDENT

REDONDO BEACH, South Bay—The Enos Fergusons increased their family by one daughter when they opened their home to exchange student Maria Schurman. Miss Schurman comes from Uruguay and will share the Ferguson home this school year. Christian Americans could perform a great service to world friendship by a full-scale program to open their hearts and homes to these future leaders from other countries.

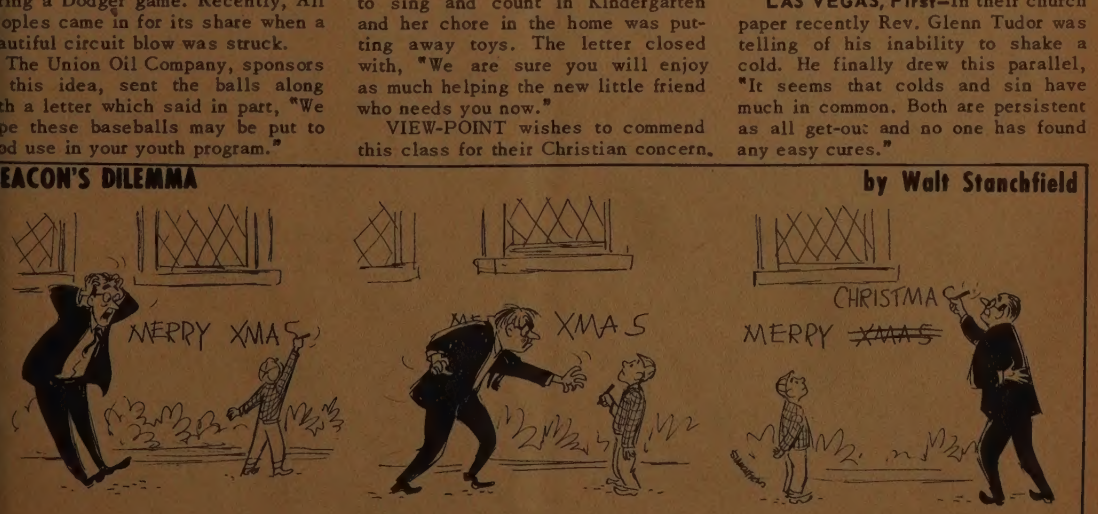
* * * * *

SENTENCE SERMON

LAS VEGAS, First—In their church paper recently Rev. Glenn Tudor was telling of his inability to shake a cold. He finally drew this parallel, "It seems that colds and sin have much in common. Both are persistent as all get-out and no one has found any easy cures."

DEACON'S DILEMMA

by Walt Stanchfield



1 2 3

1709 SACRAMENTO ST.,
BERKELEY, CALIF.
VP

FORMER CALIFORNIAN

For seven years Mr. and Mrs. Julian Stuart ministered to the First Christian Church in San Bernardino. Mr. Stuart came to the State work in an executive in Unified Promotion, Indianapolis.

From this background, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart returned to Los Angeles in early October, completing a round-the-world trip which they were privileged to have following the Edinburgh World Convention. At the invitation of Gilford Olmsted, minister of the First Christian Church in San Bernardino, Mr. Stuart spoke in the two morning services. He and Mrs. Stuart had an opportunity for rest and refreshment while there before they returned home to Indianapolis.

* * * * *

SPECIALIZED MINISTRY

Robert L. Burton, former minister of the Christian Church of El Monte, began on September 1 as the first full-time chaplain of the Inter-Community Hospital in Covina. Hospital Administrator, John T. Preston says that this latest development is another step forward in the constant effort to serve the needs of those hospitalized at Inter-Community, and marks the fulfillment of many months of planning on the part of the administration. Building expansion plans include a small devotional Chapel together with a Chaplain's office. The Chapel will be open at all times for meditation and prayer, and will symbolize the three major faiths. The Chaplain will be available for personal counseling and spiritual ministry to all Protestant patients, working in close cooperation with the community's ministerial associations, thus implementing the ministries of local pastors.

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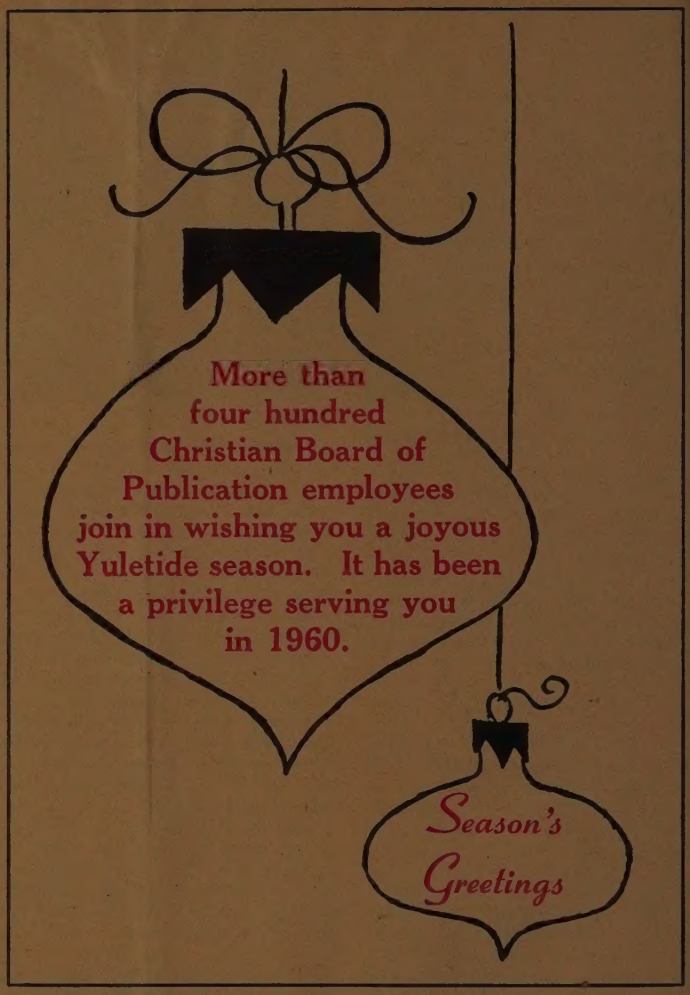
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